United Nations S/2005/652

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 October 2005

Original: English

Letter dated 14 October 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached communication, dated 13 October 2005, which I received from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

05-55584 (E) 171005

Annex

Letter dated 13 October 2005 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency addressed to the President of the Security Council

In paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 1051 (1996), the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was requested to submit consolidated progress reports every six months to the Council, commencing on 11 April 1996, on the verification activities of IAEA in Iraq pursuant to paragraphs 12 and 13 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and related resolutions.

Since 17 March 2003, IAEA has not been in a position to implement its mandate in Iraq under Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and related resolutions.

Pursuant to the Safeguards Agreement between Iraq and the Agency in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, on 17 and 18 September 2005 IAEA carried out its annual physical inventory verification of the nuclear material in Iraq located at the storage facility near the Tuwaitha complex south of Baghdad. The Agency inspectors were able to verify all nuclear material subject to safeguards.

The number of staff of the Iraq Nuclear Verification Office has been minimized to reflect the current level of activities being implemented pursuant to the relevant Security Council resolutions. As a result the overall cost of maintaining that Office has been substantially reduced while maintaining the Agency's continuity of knowledge and flexibility.

During the period covered by this report, the Iraq Nuclear Verification Office has focused on the further development of an archive system for the storage and retrieval of electronic and hard-copy information collected and generated by IAEA in the course of its Security Council-mandated activities in Iraq. Satellite imagery of the most significant sites continues to be collected and assessed.

States are reminded again that items listed in annex 3 of the IAEA ongoing monitoring and verification plan (see S/2001/561) are to be reported to IAEA both by Iraq and by States that either export to or import from Iraq such items, in accordance with the export/import monitoring mechanism approved by the Security Council in resolution 1051 (1996). Pursuant to the ongoing monitoring and verification plan, Iraq is expected to declare semi-annually changes that have occurred or are foreseen at sites deemed relevant by the Agency. During the past six months, no reports have been received by IAEA from Iraq or other States in this regard.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the present letter to be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed **ElBaradei**